

NEW SOUTH WALES MINERALS COUNCIL LTD

MININGENUITY™

LEVEL 12, 59 GOULBURN STREET, SYDNEY NSW 2000
PO BOX A244, SOUTH SYDNEY NSW 1235
• T: 61 2 8202 7200 • F: 61 2 8202 7255

Ref: 38/2006

15 November 2006
MEDIA RELEASE

PROTEST PARTY'S POLICY DROUGHT

The NSW Greens have once again resorted to “protests over policy”, demonising the coal industry in a bid for cheap media headlines.

NSW Minerals Council Chief Executive, Dr Nikki Williams, labelled the NSW Greens a ‘protest party’ which chose to “ignore the complexity of the energy debate and climate change”.

“The Stern Review recognises low emission coal technologies such as carbon capture and storage as part of the broad suite of solutions required to address the serious impacts of climate change,” said Dr Williams.

“The coal industry has committed \$300 million through a voluntary levy on coal producers, towards the demonstration of low emission coal technologies. It is a demonstration of our commitment to the business of practical, technical solutions.”

Dr Williams said that the NSW Greens Party’s plunge into irrelevance in the debate had only been accelerated by its latest criticism of the coal industry.

“Today we hear about how much cleaner gas is than coal – yet just last month Ms Rhiannon came out in opposition to a local gas project, telling ABC Radio that ‘mining gas just off our coast is really bad news’.”

“It seems that wherever there is a protest vote, Ms Rhiannon will claim it: yet real, practical solutions are nowhere to be seen.”

ENDS

Media Contact: Jai McDermott, Manager Communications
Tel Direct: (02) 8202 7222 - Fax: (02) 8202 7255 - Mobile: 0400 435 646
Email: jmcdermott@nswmin.com.au

